Notice of Allowability    Og/865,995				
Notice of Allowability    Examiner	Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address—All claims being allowable. PROSECUTION ON THE MERTIS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included revervit (or previously mailed), a hotice of Allowance (PTOL-35) or other appropriate communication will be maighed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.131 and MPEP 1308.  1. ☑ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 24 April 2006.  2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1_47.  3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  a) ☐ All ☐ ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ 1.  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  *Certified copies not received: ☐ Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply combuving with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.  4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Oraftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached:  1. ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. Mail Date ☐ Paper No. Mail Date				
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Application/Control Number: 09/865,995

Art Unit: 3734

## **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record fails to teach or render obvious the overall claimed invention of a system to provide breathing gas to a user by decomposing nitrous oxide to a breathable mixture of oxygen and nitrogen, the system comprising the following components; a thermal reactor in line with the throttling device, the reactor capable of creating a self sustaining decomposition of vaporized N2O to a mixture of breathable gas of approximately one-third oxygen and two thirds nitrogen.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael G. Mendoza whose telephone number is (571) 272-4698. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-4959. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

## Best Available Copy

Art Unit: 3734

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov/Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mh

MM

MICHAEL J. HAYES SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER